

## REMARKS

As a result of the foregoing Amendment, Claim 1 has been amended to clarify that (d) is the diameter of the silicon single crystal rod and is 100 mm or more in accordance with the original disclosure at page 17, lines 9-12. Additionally, the heat accumulating portion 47 has now been defined as comprising alumina having a thermal conductivity of  $5W/(m^{\circ}C)$  or less in accordance with the disclosure at page 17, line 3.

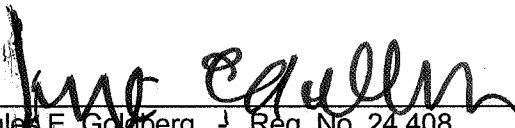
Reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection of Claims 1-17 as being unpatentable under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) over the Harada, et al. '460 patent are requested.

Harada does not disclose the presence of alumina as a thermal-insulating member nor does it disclose or suggest that the thermal-insulating member should have a thermal conductivity of  $5W/(m^{\circ}C)$  or less. The only disclosure with respect to the thermal-insulating member is that it may be a felt material made of carbon fibers (see column 8, lines 55-57). There is no information in the '460 reference from which one skilled in this art would conclude that alumina having a thermal conductivity in the range recited in the claim should be used. Inasmuch as Claims 2-17 either directly or indirectly depend from Claim 1, they all recite the same limitation. Consequently, the rejection based on this reference is untenable and should be withdrawn.

In view of the foregoing, it is submitted that this application is now in condition for allowance and favorable reconsideration and prompt Notice of Allowance are earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

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